

(Washington, DC) Earlier today, U.S. Congressman Tim Ryan (OH-17) addressed U.S. Treasury Secretary Tim Geithner regarding Delphi retiree pensions in an Appropriations committee hearing regarding the FY 2011 Budget Request and Economic Outlook.

Congressman Ryan expressed the need for decisive action on behalf of the 70,000 retirees (5,000 of whom reside in the 17th District) that have been affected by severe pension cuts.

“I continue to hear horror stories from my constituents who are Delphi union and salaried retirees, and I will ardently repeat their message to Secretary Geithner at every available opportunity. □ Policy supported by this Administration has led to very positive economic development announcements in my district – in order to continue that success, it is imperative that this Administration swiftly address the needs of these workers and retirees,” said Congressman Ryan. **“I have held a hearing in the House of Representatives, testified before the Senate, and spoken with the President and many cabinet level officials regarding this issue.□ These people are not commodities.□ They are my neighbors and my friends; little league coaches and bible school teachers.□ They are respected members of this community – and they deserve better treatment.”**

Congressman Ryan has been a leader in the efforts to provide security for the supplemental and pension benefits of Delphi retirees, and has held discussions with both state and federal officials—including a meeting with President Obama on Air Force One—to address this critical issue and its local impact in the event of inaction. In July 2009, Congressman Ryan introduced legislation to provide funding for a Voluntary Employees Beneficiary Association (VEBA) which would cover Delphi hourly and salaried employees and retirees that lost their health coverage through Delphi and GM’s Chapter 11.

Last year, the House Education and Labor Committee conducted a hearing on the pensions and

benefits cut because of the Delphi Corporation bankruptcy. The decision came after a request made by Congressman Ryan to Committee Chairman George Miller (Committee on Education and Labor) and Subcommittee Chairman Rob Andrews (Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions).

A YouTube video of Congressman Ryan's remarks to Secretary Geithner can be found here:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kxiwj14VP14>

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